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New York Daily Tribuna

TUESDAY, JULY 23, 1861.

Campaign Map.

Measure E. & G. W. Blunt have published a very comprehensive Mep including parts of Virginia, Maryland, and Dolaware, on which may be traced the movements of the three columns now advancing into the former State, on their way to hickmood. It is large enough to include all the places of im hicknesses. It is large enough to incince an the piaces of importance, and the positions of the troops may be marked upon it with entire nonurary ask; gives not only the towns, but the roads leading in every direction.

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ing by mail will please to designate "Blund's Campaign Map.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. What ever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer-not necessarily for publication, but as a guaranty for his good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

All business letters for thus office should be addressed to "This TRIBUDE," New-York.

We printed, some days since, a communication, responsibly indorsed, from New-Lisbon, Ohio, charging the Hoe. C. L. Vallandigham with leaving his aged mother dependent on charity for the necessaries of life. We print herewith another letter from several citizens of that place, giving the other side of the story, and very squarely contradi ting the former. Mrs. V., it appears, receives \$100 per sunum from the fund for the support of widows of Presbyterian Ministers, to which she is entitled, but is otherwise aided and supported by her son. Such being the case, Mr. Vallandigham would seem entirey vindicated from the aspersioons of our former correspondent.

A telegraphic dispatch was received last night by Captain Hayman, the U. S. mustering officer here. under the Secretary of War, directing him to send on to Washington all regiments now ready. Col. Sickles agrees, if transportation be furnished, to send 3,000 off by to-night; Col. Riker's Anderson Zouaves will be sent the next night; the Brooklyn Phalaux will follow as quick as they can get ready; Col. Goodwin's President's Life Guard say they shall be ready to go in two or three days. Col. Julian Allen's Regiment has been ordered to muster in. Col. Sweeney's Irish Regiment, and one or two others, will go. The cavalry squadrons formed will also be promptly ordered on. There is no doubt but that all regiments ready within a week or ten days will be accepted at once.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

The strange and disastrous retreat of our troops from their well-contested position at Bull's Run to their old quarters at Arlington yesterday formed the topic of much gloomy conversation and somber conjecture. The earliest dispatches were direct and appalling in their narrative. According to them the entire army, disintegrated, had fled, and had been more than decimated by the foe. There was not a gleam of light. As the day advanced, however, the news changed in some of its features, and became less disheartening.

It is difficult to give a perfectly clear and coherent account of the affair of Sunday. The best will be found in our special dispatches from Washington, where a detailed and logical history of the day and night is given. One or two errors, which now appear, or have during the day appeared to prevail in the minds of the commuuity, should be at once corrected. In the first place, the disaster was simply and only the effect of a wild panie; it was not a defeat. An army will yield to the former, while it would stand against any positive force that could be brought against it. The panie seized the troops, and they ran; the enemy did not pursue. In the second place, the losses on our side are by no means so great as they were at first reported. Each dispatch reduces the list. It is certain that not more than 1,000 are killed, and some authorities say that not more than 300 have fallen. The enemy has suffered terribly, beyond a doubtwhile the killing was going on, our troops had the real advantage, driving the Rebels before them. It was only when the fighting was done, and the ridiculous panic turned the heads of the men, that they seemed to waver. But what losses we made happened in straightforward and brave fighting, and will leave honorable scars upon the army roll.

The steadiness and courage of the National troops under fire were remarkable. The bottest blaze of artillery had no other effect upon them than to excite in them a steadfast, enthusiastic determination. They have been hotly tried in the battle, and have not been found wanting.

Gen. McClellan is to be put in command of the army on the Potomac, and reorganization, reenforcement, and refreshment will prepare the way for a new start upon the road toward Rich-

The country suffers a loss, which may well be deplored even in this moment of great calamity, to the decease of Col. W. D. Kennedyof the Tammany regiment, who died at Washington on Sunday of congestion of the brain. An ardent member of the Democratic party, he was a still more ardent patriot, and carried into the work of defending the national existence all the generous and manly impulses of his heart. No man was more beloved by the Democratic masses of this city, and none more trusted. Had he lived, he would have rendered to his country all the services which could be expected from a brave and carnest man full of courage and full of mental resources. His friends have lost a genuine friend, while the nation has lost a faithful and devoted distant.

QUEB FOR ALL TIMES. The worst apprehensions of the anxious friends

of the present Administration were realized yesterday by the news of the great battle fought and lost on Sunday. A million of men, overflowing with patriotism and panting with ardor for the fight, have been eager to join the glorious hosts upholding our flag and the cause of our national existence. Money without stint has been ready to flow at the demand of our Government as the waters gushed forth when Moses smote the rock. All that could be desired, in men and means, to secure a crushing victory over the rebel troops, has been impatiently awaiting the beck of the powers that be at Washington. But a strange paralysis has seemed to have hold of the men is authority. An ill-timed and miserly anxiety about the expense to be incurred; a blindfold trust of the gravest responsibilities in incompetent hands; an inexplicable rejection of offered cavalry and artillery; a general tardiness and inefficiency of preparation; and a fool-hardy and inexcusable under-estimate of the strength of the enemy-these have prevailed at Washington, until they have made shipwreck of our grand and

That quadruple the force which we had might just as well have been in the field, no one denies nor doubts. What apology the Government has to offer to the humiliated and astounded country, and to the friends-so usclessly bereavedof the wounded and slain, we cannot conjecture; but whatever it may be, we are quite safe in the conclusion that it will be found altogether insufficient and unsatisfactory.

We have fought and been beaten. God forgive our rulers that this is so; but it is true, and cannot be disguised. The Cabinet, recently expressing, in rhetoric better adapted to a loveletter, a fear of being drowned in its own honey, is now nearly drowned in gore; while our honor on the high seas has only been saved by one daring and desperate negro, and he belonging to the merchant marine. The "sacred soil' of Virginia is crimson and wet with the blood of thousands of Northern men, needlessly shed. The great and universal question pervading the public mind is: "Shall this condition of things

A decimated and indignant people will demand the immediate retirement of the present Cabinet from the high places of power, which, for one reason or another, they have shown themselves incompetent to fill. Give us for the President capable advisers, who comprehend the requirements of the crisis, and are equal to them; and, for the army, leaders worthy of the rank and file, and our banner, now drooping, will soon float once more in triumph over the whole land. With the right men to lead, our people will show themselves unconquerable.

Onward, then, to victory and glery! but let not those who hold places of responsibility dieregard for a day longer the means requisite to success. Our Government is instituted and intended for the general good; and no private interest or personal ambition should be permitted to remain an obstacle to the achievement of that great object. The people will insist upon new heads of Executive Departments; and then upon a half million troops and the best qualified and ablest Captains, Colonels and Generals whom the country can furnish. All these must be had, and without delay.

THE LESSON.

The defeat of the National Army at Bull's Run on Sunday evening is a sore lesson. All can see that it ought not to have been incurred. Yet it amounts, so far as our troops are concerned, simply to this-that Forty Thousand patriots were worsted by Sixty to Seventy Thousand rebels, as was to be apprehended. Of the One Hundred Thousand rebels in arms on the line of the Potomac, three-fourths were present under Beauregard at Manassas; while, of the One Hundred Thousand patriots confronting them on that line, but Fifty Thousand in all were under the command of Gen. McDowell, and many of these out of reach of the battle-field. That tells the whole story. It is easy to say now that we ought to have had-might have had-a much larger force there; that Gen. Patterson's column should have followed up Gen. Johnston closely from Martinsburg and either routed him or joined Gen. McDowell as soon as Johnston joined Beauregard-that an unaccountable panic broke out among the teamsters and spectators in the rear of our Army, which extended to our overmatched and exhausted soldiers in front-that this, that, and the other thing ought to have been just as it was not. The sam and substance of it all is that we were outmaneuvered and outnumbered, and that Fofty Thousand patriots in our advance proved too few to beat the Seventy Thousand rebels who confronted them after Johnston joined Beauregard.

There is nothing in all this that should discourage any patriot. We have more men than the Rebels have-more already in the field, and can call out two to their one. We cannot beat them at enormous odds, and should not attempt it. But let us call men enough into the field, and be sure that we have them where they are wanted. If a battle is to be fought in one State, it avails nothing that we have forty regiments standing idle in snother. If our men are to carry masked batteries and storm strong intrenchments, we must have them at hand to do it. We can beat the Rebels with equal numbers on even ground, and this advantage will compel them

BEATEN FOR A DAY-HOW TO CON- Unionists in the open field. They cannot pursue their cautious policy any longer without isourring even their own contempt. Now let the Union forces be concentrated, the enemy met and beaten, as they are and will be whenever the full strength of the parties is pitted against each other in fair encounter. Be sure that this reverse is not a calamity, but a repulse, and that it must lead to a speedy and signal triumph.

THE CASE OF GEN. PATTERSON.

Some six weeks ago Gen. Patterson crossed the Potomae in Upper Virginia. His army is now at Martinsburg, nearly 32,000 rank and file. What he has done can be known by consulting the files of the War Department. What he has not done can be seen in THE TRIBUNE. His continuance there has been remonstrated against in private and public. It has been known that his command has been demoralized, and its efficiency and courage made imbecility and cowardice by want of confidence and slackness of movement. The corps of Gen. Johnston, whom he was to hold in check, or whose attention he was to occupy, on Friday reënforced Beauregard at Manaesas, giving him a numerical equality with our army, and the advantage of a fortified position which for forty days they have constructed without interruption, while we have had within two marches double the number of their men. Gen. Banks now takes command, and Gen. Patterson retires. "The Prussians," said Napoleon, on his flight from Moscow to Paris, "will be debating tomorrow whether they ought not to have arrested me yesterday." If Gen. Patterson has "obeyed orders," there has been a blusder. If he has not, there should be a court-martial. It is barely possible there may be. Admiral Byng was shot for cowardice at Minorca. It was considered barbarous then. It has even been propounced murder by hist rians. But from that day to this, no British admiral, captain, or common sailor, has failed in duty. Aboukir Bay, Copenhagen, Trafalgar, and Navarino, are the evidences of what relentless justice can do, even by a wrong net, to make a navy invincible. If the cross of St. George is stained with innoent blood, the page of England's nautical history hines with an eternal glory.

PROVISION FOR THE WOUNDED. Three large buildings at Washington and

deorgetown have been taken recently by Government, and alterations, fitting them for hospitals, are nearly complete. There is a sufficient quantity of all the usual military hospital stores eady at hand. The Government does not supply, under the present army regulations, many articles which are generally used in all large civil hospitals, and which will be wanted so soon urgent surgical operations are performed. Among these the most important are ice, suitable bed-clothing, sheets, and pillew-cases. A cargo of ice was presented by a Boston gentleman to the Government early in the summer, and it s supposed that a large part of it still remains on hand at Alexandria. Twelve large cases of bed-clothing were sent by the Women's Central Relief Association of this city to the Sanitary Commission at Washington a few days since; and, as the Sanitary Commission and advertised for articles of this kind in anticipation of an engage. ment, it is probable that more is on the way Still, the quantity is evidently very insufficient and it is desirable that the liberality of the country should be concentrated for a time in this direction. The members of the Sanitary Commission in this city will proceed to Washington this morning, together with several of our surgeous, a number of medical students to act as dressers. and some experienced nurses for whose services arrangements have already been made with the Government. It should be remembered that the surgeons and officers of the hospitals cannot allow their time to be occupied, at such a time as this, in parleying with applicants and visitors or in answering letters.

"SOUTHERN AID." We note that the Rev. Dr. Stiles of New-Haven, Conn., Secretary and Agent of "The Southern Aid Society," is gazetted a Chaplain in the Rebel army, wherein his two sons are also serving. We call this "Southern Aid" to some purpose, and of a kind to be appreciated. The publications and ministrations of the "Southern Aid Society," though carefully purged from all taint of Auti-Slavery, were never cordially received in Jeffdom-and we do not wender at it. They were resented as implying a relative moral and religious destitution at the South which was not admitted, and they were scorned as covering a sneaking attempt of Northern jobbers to commend their dry goods to pious Southern retailers. The Society was always more in need of Aid than the South felt herself to be, and was a beggarly mockery from the start. But the Rev. Dr. Stiles of New-Haven and his two sons fighting to destroy the Union and slaughter its Connecticut defenders afford the kind of "Aid" that will be accepted without grimace.

CONTRABAND. It strikes us that the Bull's Run experience calls for a revision of the last General Order from Washington with regard to negroes. The masked batteries which dealt death to our surprised soldiers were mainly the work of slaves. The formidable intrenchments whence rebel renforcements were continually vomited upon our lives were constructed by slave later. Our seldiers go into the battle weary with hard work; their enemies meet them fresh from repose and gentlemanly leisure. If this is to be a war of nasked batteries, can we afford to prohibit the entrance, or even the continuance, of "contra-"band" within our lines? Can we afford to give our enemies a monopoly of diggers and shovelers without pay? If it is our aim to treat the rebels as gently as possible, the true course would seem to be to keep wholly away from them. They would doubtless prefer that.

CALIFORNIA.

The Republicans having nominated a full Ticket for the ensuing State Election, the Dongas Union Democrate have done likewise. Their candidate for Governor is John Conners of Placer County, late a Broderick or anti-Lecompton Member of Assembly; while we recognize one of their candidates for Congress (Joseph C. McKibbin) and their candidate for State Printer John R. Ridge) as also Broderick men of 1859. McKibbin was Member of the XXXVth Congress and fought the Lecompton bill throughout; Ridge is a sen of the Cherokee Chief, John Ridge, to come out of their skulking places and meet the and was in '59 an anti-Lecompton editor at

Marysville, as he probably still is. There are doubtless others of the Broderick school on the ticket, whem we do not recognize as such. It is understood that the late Breckinridge

party have been galvanized into a semblance of life by this identification of Donglasian with Broderickism, and will assemble a fresh Convention and put up a ticket. If they can keep the cloven foot of Disunionism concealed, and present themselves as the Simon Pure Democ racy, they may stand a good chance.

PATRICE HENRY ON THE POWER OF CONGRESS TO ABOLISH STAVERY.

In the Virginia Convention which ratified the Constitution, Patrick Henry opposed its ratification, on the ground that it gave Congress the power, under certain circumstances, to abolish Slavery. His line of argument may be interesting to members of Congress at the present time. He said:

" One of the great objects of Government is the na-"One of the great objects of Government is the na-tional defense. The Constitution gives power to the General Government to provide for the general de-fense, and the means must be commensurate to the end. All the means in the possession of the people must be given to the Government which is intracted with the public defense. May Congress not say every black man must fight? In the war of the Revolution, Vir-ginia passed an act of Assembly that every slave who would join the army should be free. At some future time, Congress will search the Constitution to see if they have not the cower of manumission. And have PRAISEWORTHY CONDUCT OF THE EIGHTH. they have not the power of manumistion. they have not the power of manumiston. And have they not Sir? Have they not the power to provide for the general defense and welfare? May they not think that these call for the abolition of Slavery? May they not pronounce all slaves free? and will they not be warranted by that power? The paper speaks to the point: they have the power in clear, unequivocal terms, and will clearly and certainly exercise it."

Let no patriot be for one moment disheartened or discouraged by the disaster to our army, terrible as it is. Just so soon as we have men in the high places in whom the people repose confidence, the colistments, now temperarily checked, will be so numerous that the railroads and steamships will be taxed to their utmost to convey the new forces to the seat of war. Nearly every man, weman, and child, at the North, is ready to die for the Stars and Stripes: but none of us want to be led to useless slaughter. There is talent and capacity enough in the country: if President Lincoln will summon them to his aid, he can then have a million of the best troops that could be desired. Let the incompetents resign the belm they cannot guide; but until that is done, let so one distrust the patriotism of the people; so soon as it shall be done, no one can.

The panic at Centreville is not a povelty in warfare. The best disciplined troops of Europe have been guilty of them far less excusably than our men in Virginia. Such was the famous flight of French and Sardinian troops from Castiglione to Brescia, the day after the great battle of Solferino. There the successful soldiers were resting from the fatigues of the fight, when five Austrians who had been hidden in the bushes came out into the open field to surrender themselves. Instantly, the cry of "The Austrians are coming!" was raised. From that simple incident arose a panie. For seventeen miles, all the way to Breseia, the road was filled with a flying mass of horse and foot; wagons and ambulances were emptied of their wounded, and everybody seemed beside themselves with terror. Some fifteen thousand men were engaged in this panic, and the loss of life from it was very considerable.

The Hon, Bayard Clark of Westchester County. New-York, is an accomplished cavalry officer. When a young man, he was sent by the United States Government to be educated at the French Cavalry School of Saumur, and afterward served in the Florida war. A ter the President's first call was issued, Mr. Clark organized a regiment of cavalry; when its ranks were filled, he went to Washington to procure its acceptance. This was refused, on the ground that cavalry were not required by the plan of the campaign.

We learn from Washington that a member of the Cabinet recently objected to the application of the word "Rebels" to the Southern army. This is the same feeling which has led to keep ing traitors in office, and to treating with great tenderness those who have been caught in the act. It is now high time for another sort of sentiment and a different mode of action.

A month ago or thereabout we learn that the nuestion of ordering Gen. Patterson under arrest or disobedience of orders, was considered at Washington, and from motives of delicacy or from some other motives, it was concluded to leave him in command. The result is now

THE CASE OF MR. FOSTER OF NORTH CAROLINA

To the Editor of The N. V. Triberts.

Sin: Some misunderstanding having arisen with refrence to the candidacy for Congress of Mr. Foster of North Carolina, it is but just to him to say that the returns he received from a precinct in his District, showing that he was voted for on the 12th June, though not altogether unexpected, were, however, not seriously looked for by him. The day named in the statute (chap. 69, rev. code of N. C.) and upon which Mr. Foster hid no little stress in the circular announcing himself a candidate, as well as in his letter published in THE TRIBUSE of the 29th June, is the first Thurslay of August. His announcement bears date 18th June. The voting done six days previous was irreguar in time as well as well as manner; but it was Mr. F.'s plain duty to his constituents and to himself to nake the best of the case, and to bring his credentials before the Committee on Elections. This he did, making no effort to foist himself into the House, and unwilling to take his seat unless by general consent. Many members, however, very naturally, considered the precedent which would be set by his admission, ander the circumstances of informality which attended his election, a mischievous one; and he, therefore, forbore to press his claim further.

MAP OF EASTERN VIRGINIA AND PART OF MART-AND,-Messra. Schönberg & Co. have issued a map embracing Eastern Virginia and a part of Maryland adjacent. It is very distinctly printed and gives a clearer idea of the topography of the country than any yet izened. The stirring events in the section repre-sented invest this map—which is really a good one with much interest.

MELTING OF TAILORS .- The tailors, who adjourned their meeting over from last Friday, assembled yesterday afternoon at Harmony Garden, No. 143 Essex street. Without transacting any business of special mportance, they adjourned to meet in conjunction with a general trades-meeting which is to be held at the same place on Wednesday evening, at 8 o'clock.

MEETING OF ASH AND DIET CARTMEN .- As the secting of the cartmen employed in the street cleaning siness, at Hibernia Hall last evening, delegates were lesignated to wait upon Mr. Bliss, who manages the contractor's business, and present a remonstrance against sab-contracting work.

GREAT BATTLE THE

ADDITIONAL DETAILS.

INCIDENTS OF HEROISM.

THE BATTLE DECISIVELY WON.

SINGULAR ORDER TO RETREAT.

A Panic Among the Teamsters. ITS EFFECT UPON THE SOLDIERS.

THE ENEMY ATTEMPT TO PURSUE.

They Are Repulsed by the N. Y. Eighth.

Not Over 500 Killed and Wounded.

REORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY.

Gen. McClellan Called to Its Command

WASHINGTON, Monday, July 22, 1861. THE RETREAT-THE EVENTS OF THE DAY.

The retreat of the Federal troops vesterday was one of those extraordinary events which can no more be explained than it can be justified or palliated. The day was ours. The enemy had been driven step by step from every position, and the field was occupied by our troops. Our columns had united in the very heart of the rebels' stronghold, when the order to retire was issued. From victory to defeat was only the work of an instant. At the moment of our greatest hope all changed, and the spirit and the valor of the army were gone. I will briefly review the events of the day,

Our forces started upon their march at half-past two in the morning, taking a road toward Bull's Run, about half a mile to the right of that upon which the First Division advanced on Thursday. When near the enemy, a column shot off by the side road to the right, with the purpose of flanking the position and attacking in the rear. This column comorised the divisions of Gen. Hunter and Col. Heintzel nan. The division under Gen. Tyler advanced direct, and by six o'clock reached the neighborhood of Bull's Run, beyond which the enemy was seen drawn up in line, and apparently awaiting the battle.

The first demonstration from our side was made by Capt. Carlile's battery of artillery, with a thirty-two pound Parrot rifled cannon, two shells from which were fired without any reaponse. At about the same time the Second Brigade, under Gen. Schenck, was formed at the left, and the Third, under Col. Sherman, at the right of the road.

Light skirmishing soon after began, in which our men were wounded by discharges from a masked battery which they encountered, and before which they slowly retreated. Between 7 and 8 o'clock cannonading was heard from Col. Richardson's position, he having been directed to open a diversion to conceal our real purpose. For an hour after, the howitzers of Capt. Carlile kept the enemy active, and it was not until near noon that other batteries were drawn in, and the infantry engagement was prepared for.

The 3d Brigade, including the 69th, 79th, and the Junction. 3th New-York, and 2d Wisconsin Regiments moved forward to the right, and advanced regularly up the hill slope beyond Bull's Run, upon which the enemy were stationed in force. The thick woods on either side obstructed the view. but presently volleys of musketry were heard both to the right and left, and in the distance, as if Hunter's Division were approaching and cetting at work.

Immediately after, this belief was confirmed by the thick cloud of smoke which rose from afar, and presently the troops themselves were seen moving rapidly forward, and driving the enemy before them at a distance of about two

The 3d Brigade was by this time menseing one of the enemy's earthworks, and appeared to be hotly engaged. Col. Keyes's division, the 4th. was accordingly ordered down to re-enforce, and at once pushed forward in support. The 2d brigade remained firm at the right, but not yet actively engaged. From Col. Richardson's post, a mile or two to the left around to Col, Hunter's, two miles to the right and front, the battle thus spread over some five miles of space.

Their artillery was finely worked, and was quick to discover the places whenever our men gathered; but, up to this time, the injury done by them was slight. In infantry contests they were perpetually beaten, but, when they retreated, it was to take a new and more strongly fortified position. At times they ranged themselves upon the open field, or road, but were invariably driven back by Hunter's or Sherman's

Their force was very large, and I should indge from the bodies which kept pouring down from Manassas, greatly superior to ours. They fought well, and even in their retreats showed considerable order, but their works were one by one takes from them, until they held only two or three, one in the highest ground of their position, and the others to the left of Gen. Tyler's division. The first of these was stormed by the Zousve Regiment, but was either not taken, or was not held. The others were well employed by the rebels, who threw incessant shot and shell among our most exposed men. We still pushed forward until the whole of our men, excepting the second brigade of the first division had crossed Bull's Run.

The engineers were about constructing a bridge for the artillery, the regular stone bridge having been mined, and the two columns under Gens, Tyler and Hunter, the latter of which was led by Gen. McDowell, had actually completed their junction, when the order to retreat was givery. Why it was given, no person who witnessed the tattle and raw the condition in which agairs stood can attempt to comprehend. The only point positively held by the enemy was in a hol low, to our left, and although an effort was undoubtedly made to overreach us at the left, an ample force one entire brigade was ready to receive them, and did receive and repulse them afterward, in sphe of the panic which reigned. But, at the beginning of the retirement, a fow ambulances and baggage wagons were driven burredly away, the poles of which seemed to spread terror among the troops within hearing, who instantly broke ranks and ran, pell mell, toward Centreville.

This contagion caught the rest, and in less than ten minutes our army was flying in the utmost disorder. Everything was abandoned. The wounded were deserted in the hospitals, and the only thought was of individual safety. Guar were thrown aside, and blankets and knapsacks were lost and trampled upon. The artillery shared the panie; the guns were cut loose, and the gunners used the horses to escape the more swiftly. Those on foot begged pitcously to be allowed to share the horses of those who rede. Many strove to clamber into wagons, and were pushed back by the bayonets of those whe occur pied them.

The ground was strewed with food, weapons, and clothing of every kind. Many of our guns were left to fall into the enemy's hands, including the large 32-pounders which had done se much service during the fight. All courage, all manliness seemed to have forsaken our terrorstricken men.

The last stand upon the field was made by one of the Ohio regiments, under Col. McCook, I believe, but about three miles back the reserve brigade of Gen. Bleaker was drawn up in line to cover the retreat, and effect whatever service was needed. The stand of Gen. Blenker saved us from great losses.

The enemy came up in small force at 11 o'clock at night, and charged upon the 8th New-York regiment, capturing six of its men. The charge was repulsed, and the enemy attacked with such vigor as to cause them to fly, leaving their prisoners. The disorder of our men continued during the night. There was no army, only a vast rabble. By midnight they were all scattered in the road to Fairfax Court-House, and soon after, Gen, Blenker, with the 8th New-York regiment, took up his retreat in perfect order-the only body that so retreated.

I last Centreville at 8 e'clock this morning. The last fragments of our force had all been long gone; even the hospitals were nearly deserted, all who could limp having started forth with crutches and canes. The rebel scouts were passing through the town, and apparently eadeavoring to ascertain in which way they could best succeed in cutting off the stragglers. I de not know, however, that any serious attempt to do this was made.

The road from Centreville to Fairfax was thick with the debris of the retreat. Baggage wagons were overturned and the horses lying dead and dying. Guns, ambulances, stores of provisions were strewn everywhere. At Fairfax Court-House the inhabitants were plundering our deserted baggage. Toward Arlington the evidences of the disgraceful retreat continued. About four miles from the Long Bridge Gea. Blenker was moving regularly toward Washington, his force in thorough order. As he passed, he destroyed the important bridges to secure against sudden pursuit.

The reports of losses are various, I cannot estimate our loss at less than 500 killed and wounded, but I believe that it cannot much exceed that number. As regards individuals, the most contradictory rumors reach us, and it would be criminal to spread them in this moment of uncertainty.

HAVOC BY OUR ARTILLERY.

From the statements of Quartermaster Pryor, rebel prisoner, it appears that our artillery created great havoc among the rebels, of whom there are from thirty thousand to forty thousand in the field under command of Beauregard, while they have a reserve of seventy-five thousand at

OUR FORCE ENGAGED. The whole force engaged on our side is esti-

nated at 22,000 men. Some of our troops were worn out by long uarching.

THE PORCE OF THE ENEMY. The enemy had three or four times our pan

COL. BUNTER'S DIVISION. Col. Hunter's division suffered most severely. It carried several of the enemy's batteries, attacking them in the rear, but was insufficient to

hold them, and reënforcements did not come up. COL. REINTZELMAN'S WOUND. Cel. Heintzelman received a bullet in his arm which was extracted while he was still on horse-

Lieut, Henry Abbott of the Topographical En-

gineers lost his horse, which was shot under him, the ball grazing his leg. INCIDENTALS,

Members of the 71st say that 200 of that regiment have been captured, but that its loss, killed and wounded, is not severe.

The Zouaves have probably suffered most. Their conduct was beyond praise. Of 300 marines only 45 were counted at the

Long Bridge this morning. The sight which met the eyes of Col. Hunter's

Brigade, when, after marching through the woods and taking one battery, it came in sight of the enemy, is described as a grand one. Their line of battle had been formed in splendid order, and fresh troops were brought in by rail constantly. Col. Marston's (2d New-Hampshire) wound was a slight one, and he is in the House to-day. The flotilla at the Navy-Yard was ordered at

6 o'clock last night to be on the alert, but there is no probability of the rebels crossing the Potomae below, as they have no boats. A TERRIBLE BLUNDER.

Some one has terribly blundered. Whoever ordered the attack with 20,000 men, upon thrice that number, in a strongly intrenched position, protected by numerous masked batteries, after long marching, exposure, and deprivation of rations, is greatly to blame. THE RETREAT.

For the character of the retreat, the officers are more censurable than the men, who, by all accounts, behaved much the better. Indeed, after learning that Johnston had effected a junction with Beauregard, we determined not to go be Bull's Run to see the battle, which we were assured would take place yesterday, because we could not believe a movement in front would be made until Gen. Patterson had flanked Maras-

DETAILS.

Col. Richardson's brigade was not much in the action. Only two of the Massachusetta 1st are known to have been killed, Lieut. Gill, of